

**CITY OF LONG BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
AUGUST 17, 2006**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order by Harry Saltzgaver, President, at 9:00 a.m., at the El Dorado Park West Senior Center Library. Thomas Shippey, Manager of Maintenance Operations Bureau, took roll call and confirmed a quorum.

Present: Harry Saltzgaver, President
Albert Guerra
Bob Livingstone
Brett Waterfield

Absent: Drew Satariano, Vice President (excused)
Simon George (excused)
Sarah Tong Sangmeister (excused)

Staff: Thomas Shippey, Manager, Maintenance Operations Bureau
Dennis Eschen, Manager, Planning and Development Bureau
J.C. Squires, Manager, Business Operations Bureau
Sherri Nixon-Joiner, Superintendent, Community Recreation Programs
Gwendolyn Parker, Superintendent, Contracts and Revenue Development
Leslie Hunsaker, Administrative Analyst
Bill Greco, Acting Chief Park Ranger
Shawn Larson, Contract Supervisor of Ground Maintenance
Robin Black, Executive Assistant to the Director

Guests: Robert Lamond, Partners of Parks
John Hunsaker

It was moved by Commissioner Livingstone and seconded by Commissioner Guerra to excuse the absence of Vice President Drew Satariano, and Commissioners Simon George and Sarah Tong Sangmeister. The motion carried unanimously.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JULY 20, 2006

It was moved by Commissioner Livingstone and seconded by Commissioner Guerra to approve the July 20, 2006 Parks and Recreation Commission minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

III. SAMMY AWARD PRESENTATION – GWENDOLYN PARKER AND GEOFF HALL

President Saltzgaver stated that Ms. Parker and Mr. Hall would present the Sammy Award at the September 21 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

IV. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH PRESENTATIONS FOR AUGUST

President Saltzgaver stated that Commissioner Waterfield would announce the Employee of the Month for August.

Commissioner Waterfield announced Tony Pope, as Field Operations Employee of the Month.

Ms. Sherri Nixon-Joiner, Superintendent in Community Recreation Programs Bureau, spoke about Mr. Pope, who works in the Youth Sports Office.

V. PARTNERS OF PARKS PRESENTATION ON RECREATION PARK BAND SHELL PROJECT – BEA ANTENORE

Mr. Bob Lamond stated that Bea Antenore was ill and sends her regrets and that he would be making the presentation. He introduced John Hunsaker, who would be presenting his Eagle project.

Mr. John Hunsaker said that he is 16 years old a student at Los Alamitos High School, and is close to achieving his Eagle rank. He chose to rehabilitate the public seating benches at the Recreation Park band shell for his service project because of his love of music. He removed 65 old and dilapidated boards and replaced them with new, primed, and painted boards. He explained how he held fundraisers and raised \$1,000 for the project supplies. The project took four weekends and volunteers contributed 330 man-hours. He thanked Shawn Larson and Theresa Maceyka, Maintenance Operations Bureau Supervisors, for their help with his project. Mr. Hunsaker presented Shawn Larson, who was present, with a plaque from him and the Boy Scouts of America.

Commissioner Guerra asked if the rest of his Troup assisted with the project.

Mr. Hunsaker said that his Troup did assist, along with City staff, friends, and family.

Commissioner Guerra encouraged Mr. Hunsaker to continue his path and commended him for his work.

Mr. Tom Shippey introduced the Department's new Manager of Business Operations, J.C. Squires, who came from the City Auditor's Office.

VI. COMMISSION ACTION ITEMS

#06-0801

PERSONAL SERVICES/INSTRUCTION AGREEMENTS-MONTHLY APPROVAL

It was moved by Commissioner Livingstone and seconded by Commissioner Guerra to authorize the Community Recreation Services Bureau Manager or his or her management designee to execute the Personal Services and Instruction Agreements and amend Attachment "A" of the agreements as needed. The motion carried unanimously.

#06-0802

AUTHORIZATION OF FACILITY USE PERMIT WITH THE RANCHO LOS CERRITOS FOUNDATION

Ms. Gwendolyn Parker stated that the Rancho Los Cerritos Foundation has two contracts with the City and this approval would synchronize the agreements to expire at the same time.

It was moved by Commissioner Guerra and seconded by Commissioner Livingstone to authorize the execution of a Third Amendment to Facility Use Permit No. 28275 between the City of Long Beach and Rancho Los Cerritos Foundation to extend the term five years, with two, five-year renewal options subject to the approval of the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine. The motion carried unanimously.

#06-0803

REQUEST TO ALLOW ADDITIONAL COLLOCATION ON CELL TOWER AT EL DORADO GOLF COURSE

Ms. Parker stated that the Department was approached by Verizon to add an additional antenna on the existing cell tower at El Dorado Golf Course. She said that the Planning and Building Department would also need to approve this request also.

Mr. Eschen said that this includes additional ground equipment, which will be screened by landscaping.

It was moved by Commissioner Waterfield and seconded by Commissioner Livingstone to receive and file the staff report on the collocation on the cell tower at El Dorado Golf Course. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
President Saltzgaver, Chair

President Saltzgaver stated that the Executive Committee met and discussed the agenda. He said that there has been an upgrade in the status of the Parks and Recreation Commission, through a letter to the City Manager, and Commissioners should now be getting introduced at City events.

President Saltzgaver stated that the National Recreation and Parks Association Annual Congress is in October and will be held in Seattle, Washington. The Department is up for the Gold Medal Award for the best park system in the nation, and will be receiving an award for the mural program. He is planning on attending that conference.

B. FINANCE AND APPEALS COMMITTEE
President Saltzgaver, Chair

President Saltzgaver stated that the Committee met in a study session regarding the tennis contract with Cathy Jacobson Guzy. He said that issue is still to be resolved. The finance report is included in the packet.

President Saltzgaver stated that the budget was presented to the City Council on August 15.

C. PARK SAFETY COMMITTEE
Commissioner George, Chair

Acting Chief Ranger Bill Greco stated that there was no meeting this month and the incident report was included in the packet.

Commissioner Waterfield stated that he walked by the El Dorado skate park and noticed the posted signs warning that the skate park would be closed if equipment violations continue.

Mr. Shippey stated that this issue would be brought before the Parks and Recreation Commission before any action would be taken.

Acting Chief Ranger Greco said that they have cited and arrested people at the skate parks.

President Saltzgaver said that the skate boarders were more than willing to organize when the skate park opened and suggested that the Department organize another meeting with them.

Mr. Shippey stated that the good kids would attend the meeting but the counter-culture skate boarders would probably not attend. He said that a meeting would definitely be set up before the Department would temporarily close the skate parks.

President Saltzgaver said he would like an update on why the lights are still not working at the Houghton Park skate park and asked if it could be made a priority.

Mr. Shippey said he would find out why Edison has not been able to repair the lights and respond back.

D. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND CUSTOMER SATISFACTION COMMITTEE

Commissioner Guerra, Chair

Commissioner Guerra stated that the Committee met this morning and that he would be contacting Mr. Hester to discuss the broad goals of the Committee. He said that he walked through the El Dorado Community Center and did not see any customer comment cards.

Mr. Shippey responded that staff is instructed to keep the customer comment cards available.

Ms. Nixon-Joiner stated that they could have run out.

Commissioner Livingstone stated that he did not see any customer comment cards at the El Dorado golf course or in the restaurant.

Mr. Shippey responded that he would look into replacing the customer comment cards.

E. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS COMMITTEE

Vice President Satariano, Chair

President Saltzgaver stated that the Committee did not meet. He asked if Mr. Eschen could discuss the acquisition of a five-acre parcel of land from MTA.

Mr. Eschen stated that on August 15, the City Council approved an acquisition of five acres of land from MTA, just off of 7th Street by the Los Angeles River. MTA will be leasing the property back while they are cleaning the site of hazardous material.

President Saltzgaver stated that the Ed "Pops" Davenport Park opening would be held on August 26.

F. CITY SCHOOLS/JOINT COMMITTEE
Commissioner Tong Sangmeister, Chair

President Saltzgaver stated that the Committee did not meet.

G. SPECIAL EVENTS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
Commissioner Livingstone, Chair

Commissioner Livingstone stated that he believes they would meet next month.

VIII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO COMMISSION

A. DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – JULY 2006

President Saltzgaver asked for any questions on the monthly report. There were none.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

President Saltzgaver stated that there was no correspondence received.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Saltzgaver stated there was no unfinished business this month.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

President Saltzgaver stated that there was no new business this month. He said that the park tour should be scheduled soon.

XII. COMMENTS

A. AUDIENCE

President Saltzgaver asked for comments from the audience. There were no comments from the audience.

B. STAFF

President Saltzgaver asked for comments from the staff.

Ms. Nixon-Joiner thanked the Commissioners who came out to the Baseball and Softball Hall of Fame. It was a wonderful ceremony.

Commissioner Livingstone suggested that next year a Hall of Fame fundraiser be held, possibly allowing the public to purchase a ticket to attend the lunch so they can mingle with the Hall of Fame inductees and their families.

Commissioner Livingstone recommended that next year the inductees stand next to their plaque, as it is unveiled.

Mr. Shippey stated that the Mayor's Trophy Golf Tournament would be held on August 18, to benefit the Junior Golf program. The Department would like to bring golf programs to youth all over the city.

C. COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Guerra stated that the mobile skate park would be coming to the California Heights area, due to a request of a young man who wrote a letter to Mr. Hester. There are no parks near the area.

President Saltzgaver suggested that the Department do some public relations on the mobile skate park program.

President Saltzgaver said that there was a very nice and lengthy story in the Los Angeles Times on the Long Beach Municipal Band. He stated that it was too bad it did not mention the Department.

XIII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 21, 2006, at El Dorado Park West, in the Senior Center Library, 2800 Studebaker Road, Long Beach.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

President Saltzgaver adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Black
Executive Secretary
to the Director

c: Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine